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1971/03/29

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

TOP SECRET/NODIS

March 29, 1971

THE PRESIDENT'S FILES

Henry:

Attached is a memcon of the meeting with the President, Secretary Laird, Secretary Connally, Secretary Packard, Admiral Moorer and yourself. I thought you might want to review the last part of it.

ALEXANDER M. HAIG, JR.

with the President, Secretary of Laird, Secretary of the Treasury Deputy Secretary of Defense Packard, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Moorer, Henry A. Kissinger and Brigadier General Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

Friday, March 26, 1971, 4:00 P.M.

The Oval Office

FROM: Al Haig

Attachment

opened the meeting by stating that the time had come imperative that we consider carefully what known to the North Vietnamese next May, June, and July when U.S. forces will have been drastically reduced. The President stated that [illegible] absolutely sure that the South Vietnamese armed [illegible] all they need in the way of helicopters, planes, artillery and [illegible].

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that he wished to discuss was one which posed a U.S. sortie rates in Southeast Asia. The President to be sure that we maintain a high level of air sorties at [illegible] the U.S. elections. He added that at some point we might get a break on the negotiating front and if, for example, the other side agreed to a prisoner exchange and mutual withdrawal by July 1 of 1972, [illegible] have to accept the proposal. They may argue that [illegible] the South Vietnamese have enough military [illegible] protect themselves. The President stated that he had spoken to the [illegible] Alsop the other day and Alsop had expressed his concern [illegible] Vietnamese residual capability. He stated that Alsop has been a good friend and although he may be crazy on this particular issue, nevertheless he wished to be assured. He added that we have sacrificed

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NSC Memo, 11/24/98, State Dept. Guidelines
By lek, NARA, Date 12/28/99